

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 057862

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CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02

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TO USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, OECD

SUBJECT: IEA: VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT, UNAGGREGATED DATA

REFS: (A) OECD PARIS 05829; (B) STATE 050839

1. AT IEA GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MARCH 7, SEVERAL PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES CRITICIZED SLOWNESS IN AFFORDING ANTITRUST CLEARANCE TO U.S. COMPANIES TO JOIN IN MEETING OF IAB, WHICH WOULD CONSEQUENTLY HAVE TO BE POSTPONED. VAN RHIJN (NETHERLANDS) TOOK LEAD IN VOICING THESE COMPLAINTS, WHICH WERE ECHOED BY IRELAND AND FRG AMONG OTHERS.

2. USDEL REPLIED THAT IT REGRETTED DELAY BUT THAT IT IS
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PAGE 02 STATE 057862

CONFIDENT THAT THE VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT WILL COME INTO EF-

FECTION WITHIN FOUR OR FIVE WEEKS. IT NOTED THAT CONGRESS IS CONSIDERING FRESH LEGISLATION THAT WILL DISPLACE CURRENT AUTHORITY FOR VOLUNTARY AGREEMENTS, WHICH, HOWEVER, IT IS HOPED WILL ACCORD ADEQUATE AUTHORITY FOR THEM.

3. USDEL FURTHER NOTED, AS HAD VAN RHIJN, THAT THERE ARE LEGAL PROBLEMS IN TRANSMISSION BY COMPANIES OF UNAGGREGATED DATA, AND STATED THAT THESE PROBLEMS ARE NOT SIMPLY ANTITRUST. IT NOTED THAT, IF OIL COMPANIES WERE PRESSED TO GIVE UNAGGREGATED DATA, THEIR COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE

TOWARDS IEP COULD BE JEOPARDIZED.

4. USDEL HAD PRIVATELY INFORMED HOPKINS (SECRETARIAT) IN DETAIL, THAT HIS PROPOSAL (REFTEL A) FOR LIMITED SUBMISSION OF UNAGGREGATED DATA WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO USG. NEVERTHELESS, THAT PROPOSAL WAS CIRCULATED AT SECRETARIAT INITIATIVE IN GB AFTERNOON OF MARCH 7, IN FOLLOWING REVISED FORMULATION.

5. QUOTE THE GOVERNING BOARD, CONSIDERED ITS DECISION SET FORTH IN PARAGRAPH 8 OF IEA/GB(75)8, RE-CONSIDERED THE DOCUMENT "INFORMATION SYSTEM ON THE INTERNATIONAL OIL MARKET - DIFFERING VIEWPOINTS ON CRUDE OIL IMPORT PRICES REPORTING PROCEDURES" (IEA/SOM(75)5) AND DECIDED THAT, IF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DETERMINES THAT IT IS NECESSARY, IN ORDER TO RECONCILE ANOMALIES OR INCONSISTENCIES (A) IN THE DATA RECEIVED BY A PARTICIPATING COUNTRY OR (B) IN THE AGGREGATED DATA RECEIVED BY THE SECRETARIAT FROM TWO OR MORE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES, HE MAY, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE STANDING GROUP ON THE OIL MARKET AND WITH THE ADVICE OF THE LEGAL ADVISER, REQUEST THAT ONE OR MORE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES SUBMIT TO THE SECRETARIAT, IN ADDITION TO THE AGGREGATED DATA TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARIAT PURSUANT TO SUBPARAGRAPHS (D) AND (E) OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED DECISION, ALSO SUBMIT TO THE SECRETARIAT, AND THOSE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES WILL SUBMIT, UNAGGREGATED DATA ON A COMPANY-BY-COMPANY BASIS INsofar AS NECESSARY TO RECONCILE THE ANOMALIES OR INCONSISTENCIES IN QUESTION, IT BEING UNDER-

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PAGE 03 STATE 057862

STOOD THAT NO UNAGGREGATED COMPANY-BY-COMPANY DATA RECEIVED BY THE SECRETARIAT WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ANY PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES OR TO ANY OIL COMPANY, AND SUBJECT TO REVIEW OF THIS PROCEDURE IN 1977 IN LIGHT OF THE EXPERIENCE GAINED IN 1975 AND 1976 IN ORDER TO DECIDE WHETHER THIS PROCEDURE SHOULD BE CONTINUED; END QUOTE.

6. IN RESPONSE TO THIS SECRETARIAT DRAFT, FRG DEL STATED

THAT IT DID NOT GO FAR ENOUGH TO MEET ITS NEEDS. DANISH DEL DECLARED THAT IT TOO HAD DOUBTS ABOUT IT. REAL QUESTION, IT MAINTAINED, IS WHETHER THERE CAN BE TRANSMISSION OF PARTICULAR SORTS OF UNAGGREGATED DATA; IT WAS NOT DESIRABLE TO ADDRESS DATA IN GENERAL TERMS. USDEL STATED THAT, WHILE IT WOULD OF COURSE STUDY THE SECRETARIAT DRAFT, JUST AS IT PRESENTED PROBLEMS FOR FRG FROM ITS PERSPECTIVE, IT PRESENTED PROBLEMS TO USG FROM ITS DISTINCTIVE PERSPECTIVE. UKDEL SAW DIFFICULTIES IN SECRETARIAT PROPOSAL WHICH, IT SUGGESTED, SOM SHOULD STUDY.

7. AFTER GB ADJOURNED, HOPKINS PASSED USDEL FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVE TEXT TO HIS, WHICH HE SAID WAS PREPARED IN ANOTHER SECTION OF THE SECRETARIAT. HE EXPRESSED REGRET THAT IT TOO HAD NOT BEEN CIRCULATED AND, AFTER QUICK LOOK, USDEL AGREED.

8. QUOTE THE GOVERNING BOARD:

(A) CONSIDERED THE ALTERNATIVE DRAFT TEXTS OF "CONCLUSIONS" TO THE GOVERNING BOARD MEETING OF 5TH TO 7TH FEBRUARY, 1975, SET DOWN IN IEA/GB(75)8, ITEM 8(F), AND AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

(I) INVITED ANY PARTICIPATING COUNTRY DETECTING SIGNIFICANT VARIATIONS IN ITS INDIVIDUAL COMPANY DATA TO SUBMIT THE COMPANY DATA CONCERNED TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WHO WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING ITS CONFIDENTIALITY, AND TO REQUEST THAT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CARRY OUT THE NECESSARY ANALYSIS:

(II) ASKED THE STANDING GROUP ON THE OIL MARKET LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 STATE 057862

TO REVIEW, IN THE LIGHT OF EXPERIENCE, BEFORE 1ST APRIL, 1976, THE PROCEDURES FOR GATHERING AND DISSEMINATING CRUDE OIL IMPORT PRICE INFORMATION AND TO RECOMMEND TO THE GOVERNING BOARD ANY APPROPRIATE CHANGES. END QUOTE. INGERSOLL

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